

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment sets forth claims 151 to 203, with claims 158 to 202 being newly added. Applicant expresses his appreciation for the consideration given during two telephonic interviews with applicant's undersigned attorney on Aug. 5 and Aug. 17. During these interviews, the pending claims were discussed as well as the prior art. Claims 158 and 187 were specifically discussed during the Aug. 17 interview. Where any of the newly presented claims differ from the claims as originally filed in this application, the amendments (as well as all previous amendments for this application) are for the sole purpose of clarifying the invention as claimed and not for the purpose of establishing patentability. Furthermore, in many instances, the amendments narrowed the scope of the claims.

Support for the newly added claims can be found in the originally filed claims as well as Figs. 2 and 3 (including Figs. 3a-3f) of the originally filed specification.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: September 13, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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